



Sanford International

Minnehaha Country Club | Sioux Falls, South Dakota | September 17-19, 2021

Second-Round Notes

Saturday, September 18, 2021

Course Setup: Par 70 / 6,586 yards (R2: 69.778; Cumulative: 69.241)

Weather: Sunny with highs in the low-80s and winds S at 15-20 mph with gusts up to 32 mph

Sunday Schedule Update: Tee times have been moved up due to expected wind conditions. Play will begin off Nos. 1 and 10, starting at 8 a.m. (CT) and the final group will tee off at 10:10 a.m. (CT).

Media Contact:

Connor Stange, connorstange@pgatourhq.com, 402-560-3758

	Player	To Par	Scores
1.	K.J. Choi	-11	63-66 – 129
T2.	Paul Stankowski	-9	68-63 – 131
T2.	Alex Cejka	-9	67-64 – 131
T2.	Rod Pamplung	-9	64-67 – 131
T5.	Steve Flesch	-8	67-65 – 132
T5.	Mario Tiziani	-8	65-67 – 132

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Final-Round Tee Times](#) (Golf Channel: 9:30-11:30 p.m. ET – Tape Delay)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

K.J. Choi, 63-66 – 129 (-11)

- After shooting his lowest round on PGA TOUR Champions on Friday (63), Choi followed it up with 4-under 66. He played the first six holes in 1-over before making five birdies in his final 12 holes.
- Choi leads the field in putts per round (25.5) after 36 holes. He is tied for the fewest bogeys in the field this week (1, Retief Goosen).
- Choi's 129 total is the lowest 36-hole score in Sanford International history, one stroke better than the previous record (130; Brandt Jobe/2018, Steve Stricker/2018).
- This is Choi's lowest 36-hole score on PGA TOUR Champions (129). His previous best was 131 (2020 Charles Schwab Cup Series at Ozarks National).

- This is the first time Choi has led or co-led entering the final round on PGA TOUR Champions.
- Choi will play in the final group on Sunday for the first time on PGA TOUR Champions.
- With a win on Sunday, Choi would be the 11th different rookie to win on PGA TOUR Champions during the 2020-21 season (16th win by a rookie).
- With a win on Sunday, Choi would be the 13th first-time winner on PGA TOUR Champions during the 2020-21 season. The 12 first-time winners are the most in any single season in Champions Tour history.
- A win by Choi on Sunday would be the first victory on PGA TOUR Champions by a player from South Korea.
- With a win on Sunday, Choi would snap a winless streak of eight years, 11 months and 15 days (or 3,272 days).
 - Choi's last win was at the 2012 CJ Invitational hosted by K.J. Choi on the Asian Tour.
 - Choi's last win on the PGA TOUR was THE 2011 PLAYERS Championship. In all, Choi won eight times on the PGA TOUR.
- Choi has four top-10s in 13 starts on PGA TOUR Champions this season. His best finish was T3 (2021 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship).

Paul Stankowski, 68-63 – 131 (-9)

- Starting the day T31, Stankowski fired 7-under 63 for the low round of the day and matched the low round of the tournament (K.J. Choi/R1, Darren Clarke/R1).
- After opening with five straight pars, Stankowski birdied seven of his next 11 holes. After a bogey on No. 17, he closed with a birdie on the 18th hole.
- This is Stankowski's lowest round on PGA TOUR Champions (30 rounds) and his lowest 36-hole score (131).
- This is Stankowski's best position on the leaderboard entering the final round and the third time he has been in the top 10 entering Sunday (T8/2021 Shaw Charity Classic, T10/2021 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship).
- With a win on Sunday, Stankowski would become the 15th open qualifier to win on PGA TOUR Champions and the first since Dicky Pride (2021 Mitsubishi Electric Classic). Stankowski shot 65 to finish third in the qualifier on Tuesday.
- With a win on Sunday, Stankowski would snap a winless streak of 24 years, 7 months and 3 days (or 8,981 days). Stankowski, who has two PGA TOUR victories, last won at the 1997 Sony Open in Hawaii.
- With a win on Sunday, Stankowski would be the 11th different rookie to win on PGA TOUR Champions during the 2020-21 season (16th win by a rookie).
- With a win on Sunday, Stankowski would be the 13th first-time winner on PGA TOUR Champions during the 2020-21 season. The 12 first-time winners are the most in any single season in Champions Tour history.
- Stankowski will play in the final group on Sunday for the first time on PGA TOUR Champions.
- Making the ninth start of his rookie season on PGA TOUR Champions, Stankowski's best finish is T13 (2021 Shaw Charity Classic).

Alex Cejka, 67-64 – 131 (-9)

- Cejka eagled Nos. 12 and 16 en route to 6-under 64 and moved from T19 to T2 on the leaderboard.
- This is Cejka's lowest 36-hole score on PGA TOUR Champions (131). His previous best was 133 (2021 Shaw Charity Classic, 2021 Chubb Classic).
- Cejka will play in the final group on Sunday for the third time this season. He is 1-for-2 converting those into victories (T2/2021 Chubb Classic, Won/2021 Regions Tradition).
- This is the third time Cejka has been in second place or better entering the final round on PGA TOUR Champions. He converted the first two instances into victories (2021 Regions Tradition, 2021 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship).
- With a win on Sunday, Cejka would match Jim Furyk for the most wins on PGA TOUR Champions this season (3).
- A win by Cejka would be the 16th win by a rookie on PGA TOUR Champions this season.

Rod Pampling, 64-67 – 131 (-9)

- Pampling made six birdies en route to 3-under 67. He is tied for the most birdies in the field after two rounds (13, Darren Clarke).
- A win by Pampling would be his second victory in his last four starts (2021 Boeing Classic). Pampling has eight top-10s in 28 starts this season.
- A win by Pampling would be the 16th win by a rookie on PGA TOUR Champions this season.
- A win by Pampling would be the 35th win by a player from Australia on PGA TOUR Champions.

Other Notes

- **Steve Flesch** and **Mario Tiziani** are T5 at 8-under 132 after two rounds.
- On his opening hole of the day, **Shaun Micheel** made a hole-in-one on No. 10 with a 4-iron from 196 yards.
- **Tommy Armour III** withdrew after the second round.
- Two players in this week's field have connections to South Dakota and here is their standing on the leaderboard after the second round:
 - **Tom Byrum** – T7 (133)
 - **Rich Beem** – T50 (140)